The following communication, dated 15 November 1994, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Israel.

On 3 December 1987, the CONTRACTING PARTIES suspended until 30 June 1988 the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement, to enable the Government of Israel to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System as of 1 January 1988 and carry out negotiations subsequently.

By eight successive Decisions, till 31 December 1991, the CONTRACTING PARTIES extended the time-limit to enable the implementation of the Harmonized System.

The documentation with regard to the Harmonized System was submitted to the GATT Secretariat and was circulated as SECRET/HS/31 on 22 January 1992.

At the end of the prescribed 90 days, three requests for consultations under Article XXVIII were received. Those consultations are still in progress.

In order to complete the process under Article XXVIII, five more extensions of the time-limit were granted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES, the last one on 21 July 1994 extending the time-limit until 31 December 1994.

Due to exceptional circumstances, an extension of the time-limit is requested until 30 June 1995.

To facilitate consideration of this matter, the text of a draft Decision is annexed.

\[1\text{BISD 34S/29.}\]

\[2\text{L/7508.}\]
ANNEX

ISRAEL - ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SCHEDULE XLII

Draft Decision on Extension of Time-limit

Considering that the CONTRACTING PARTIES, by their Decision of 3 December 1987\(^1\), suspended until 30 June 1988 the application of the provisions of Article II of the General Agreement to enable the Government of Israel to implement the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) on 1 January 1988 and carry out negotiations subsequently;

Noting that the necessary documentation for the renegotiations under Article XXVIII of the General Agreement was circulated to the contracting parties with document SECRET/HS/31 on 22 January 1992;

Considering that at the end of the prescribed 90 days three requests for consultations were received and that these consultations are still in progress;

Taking into account that, by successive Decisions, the CONTRACTING PARTIES extended the time-limit for the completion of the negotiations or consultations to be conducted by the Government of Israel until 31 December 1994\(^2\);

Considering that, due to exceptional circumstances, the Government of Israel has requested a further extension of the time-limit until 30 June 1995;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES, acting pursuant to the provisions of Article XXV:5 of the General Agreement,

Decide, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to extend the time-limit provided for in the Decision of 3 December 1987, until 30 June 1995.

\(^1\)BISD 34S/29.

\(^2\)L/7508.